

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00513 231611Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAM-01 OPIC-03 AF-06 AID-05

OMB-01 H-02 CIAE-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 IO-11 DODE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /088 W

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O R 231550Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5767

INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, EINV, PO

SUBJECT: TIMEX PROPOSES MASS LAYOFF

REF: LISBON 0164

1. TIMEX MANAGEMENT HAS ANNOUNCED IT PLANS TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE FACTORY ON JANUARY 23 FOR TWO WEEKS AND TO PERMANENTLY DISMISS 700 WORKERS. WORKERS WILL BE PAID THROUGH END OF JANUARY. FACTORY WILL OPEN AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 9 AND OPERATE FOR THREE WEEKS, AT WHICH TIME IT WILL SHUT DOWN AGAIN FOR TWO WEEKS.

2. WORKERS PUBLISHED COMMUNIQUE ON JANUARY 22 DESCRIBING ABOVE PLAN AND ACCUSING MANAGEMENT OF BAD FAITH. LABOR MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE OF JANUARY 21 STATED THAT WORKERS HAD PRESENTED ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL BUT MANAGEMENT HAD NOT COMPLIED WITH AGREEMENT. WORKERS WILL HOLD FACTORY-WIDE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 23 TO DECIDE ON NEXT ACTION. TAKE-OVER OF PLANT AND/OR LOCK-IN OF MANAGEMENT ARE POSSIBILITIES.

3. COMMENT: SITUATION AT PLANT STILL CALM AS OF 11:00 AM LISBON TIME. MANAGEMENT (ALL SCOTTISH NATIONALS) SOMEWHAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCERNED ABOUT OUTCOME OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING. THEY

STATE THAT ACTION BEING TAKEN IN VIEW OF LACK OF CONCRETE
LABOR MINISTRY RESPONSE TO ORIGINAL PROPOSAL. MINISTRY'S
COUNTER-PROPOSALS TO NEGOTIATE EVIDENTLY NOW UNACCEPTABLE TO
TIMEX MANAGEMENT.

4. PLANNED DISMISSAL OF WORKERS APPARENTLY ILLEGAL UNDER PRESENT LAW.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON00513
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760026-0745
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760128/aaaaayll.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 164
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TIMEX PROPOSES MASS LAYOFF
TAGS: BGEN, EINV, PO, TIMEX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006